



Scene I Opening What's Going On

Scene II Sports Body Shapers

. Lounge The Flirt Scene IV

EMANUEL UNGARO

BECOMING THE WOMAN IN THE SUIT by Anna

The first big queer event I went to after coming out to myself as bi was Out/Write last year, the queer writers conference. I'd been volunteering for them for a while beforehand, too, typing letters, running errands, etc., for the coordinator, Sue. I was unsure of myself and didn't talk much, showing up for work in my short skirts and tights, paramoid that Sue would call me on my new-found sexuality and not let me into the club. At the same time, I really admired her -- she was my mentor -- calm, collected, patient, respectful, funny, butch. Her girlfriend was pregnant.

When the big weekend finally came around I was totally wired from lack of sleep. I had never seen so many queer people in one place before and I kept having to tell myself that I belonged here. My senses were overwhelmed, I was trying to look everywhere at once. And then, out of the corner of my eye, I started seeing them. Just one every now and again, then a couple all at once at one of the events. Women Women in suits.

Adult Children of Heterosexuals played for the dance the last night of the conference, and Lynn Brown, one of the back-up singers became my instant lust object for life. Cool and lanky, loose suspender straps framing her bony hips -- she was wearing a suit

What was it that got to me? These women were head and shoulders above the rest of the crowd; it was like they were spotlit. The way they walked, the way the suits fit, the look in their eyes. It got to me. It still does.

So I thought -- yeah, that's who I want to be with.

My first girlfriend, after lo these many
years, is going to be a woman in a suit
who will sweep me off my feet and take
me there where I've never been.

My pal, Karen F., has ins at Harvard, and invited me to a talk there about transgendered folk in conjunction with the show and Marjorie Garber's seminar. (Would you believe I haven't read her book, Vested Interests yet? I will though, I will.) The talk was given by the photographer Mariette Pathy Allen, whose book you should check out. It was my first cognizant encounter with the idea of cross dressers who aren't necessarily gay, (though they're for sure queer, which is not, in my book, a euphemism for gay); that's also where I met Nancy. Nancy used to be John, but she transitioned. She talked about how things have gone pretty well at work, except for one man, who no longer talks to her, and for the fact that her colleagues need her to always wear skirts because they don't want to slip up and accidentaly call her John if she shows up in \$lacks. She talked about how difficult some parts of her life have been, how important it is to her to live as a woman -- so important that it came before everything else. She didn't really know why it was so important, just that it was.

the suit.

Then a woman in the seminar talked a little about coming out as butch in working class bars in the midwest, how by the Big Bad Dads, how she'd lived as a been a little nervous before the talk, was going to be boring or irrelevant to, point, I was nearly hyperventaliating. need to hear more about those Dads, a man. And I kept watching Nancy out of my eye -- the yearning in her face, positioned her hands on the table, the brushed her hair back from her forehead. about the first time she'd photographed felt like she was looking directly soul. I sort of knew what she meant.

Allen and Nancy were heere for 93: Dress Codes at the ICA, which planned to attend. The weekend lark, she and I had gone to the and I had bought a suit. A nice number from the 60s. I in it. I felt great in it night approached, I freak out. What did want to wear a suit? being femmy for a while do to my image? What I want to be butch knew that it felt Nancy opening the one the

Му fab. felt hot: baby Ι high than love to

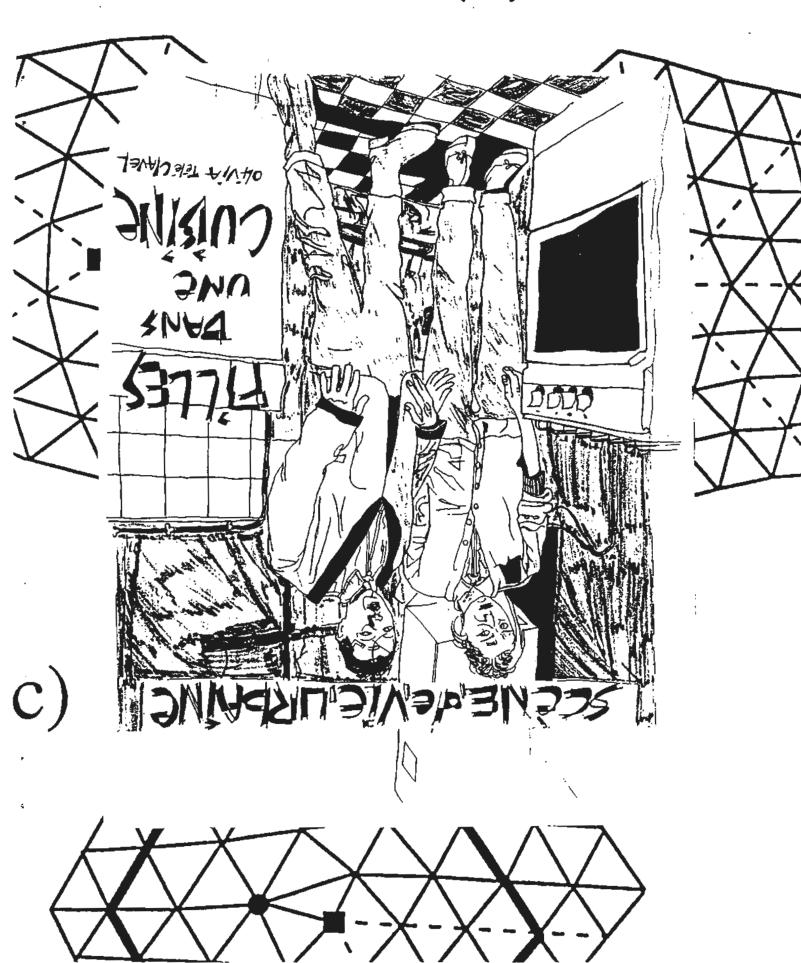
she'd been trained man for 2 years. I'd thinking maybe this my life; by this I felt a physical those years as of the corner the way she she way Allen had spoken across dresser and person's into this

opening night of Currents Karen and I also before, on a Garment District green-grey looked good But as opening started to it mean to I've had fun what was this going to did I want it to do? Did ? What was going on? I just important. I thought about her little leather purse, like had in high school, to give me vite to the opening night reception. I wore

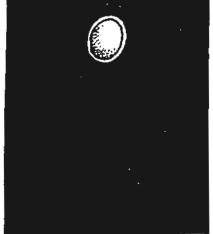
And loved it. I looked fab. I felt girlfriend thought I looked swell. I sexy and suave. I wanted to waltz my round the dance floor one time. I was felt like I was walking in a different space usual, and I liked it. When I escorted my a Chinese restaurant later on, my fortune said:

going to have some

(b)



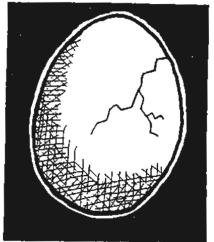
TWELVE FIFTEEN



I wandered lonely as a cloud



That floats on high o'er vales and hills,



2'gelloan

When all at once I saw a crowd,



A host, of golden daffodils;



Beside the lake, beneath the trees,



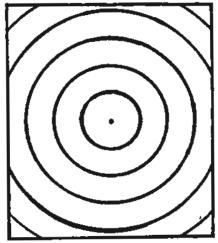
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.



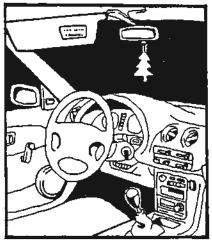
Continuous as the stars that shine



And twinkle on the milky way,



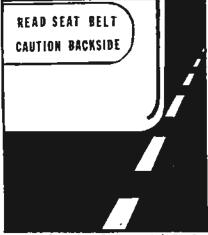
They stretched in never-ending line



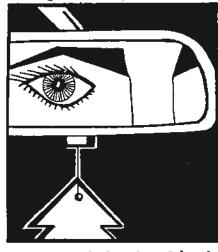
Along the margin of a bay:



Ten thousand saw I at a glance,

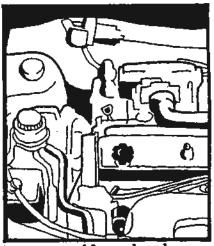


Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.





The waves beside them danced; but they Outdid the sparkling waves in glee;



A poet could not but be gay,



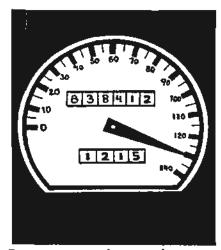
In such a jocund company; I gazed-and gazed-but little thought What wealth the show to me had brought:



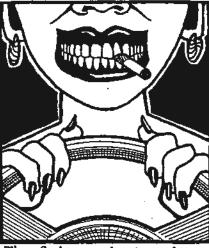


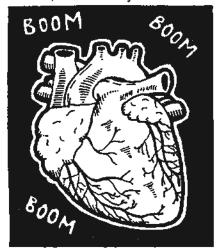


For oft, when on my couch I lie



In vacant or in pensive mood, They flash upon that inward eye





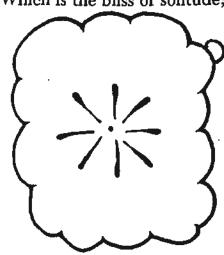
Which is the bliss of solitude;



And then my heart with pleasure fills,



And dances with the daffodils.





RACE, SEX AND THE POLITICS OF LOVE: OR WHY STRAIGHT WHITE WOMEN CAN'T GET A DATE IN HAWAI'I BY KAREN KFLSKY

White men: saviors, feminists, sensitive, egalitarian, supportive, sexy, powerful, rich; Asian men: dickless, skinny, Confucian, sexist, nerdy, selfish, social strivers, kung fu masters; White women: the "third sex," unfeminine, bitchy, spoiled, cows, selfish, Amazons, fat, blotchy, frizzy-haired; Asian women: petite, delicate, feminine, appealing, subdocile, low-maintenance, exotic. Do these words shock you? They shouldn't. missive. how firmly this racist hierarchy of desire is entrenched in the white Bo you know sciousness? Do you know that it may be entrenched in your own mal@ American conbrain, too, as well as the brains of virtually every-goddam-body else in this States? Or maybe I'm just over-sensitive. nation of the United great i see, I live in Hawai'i, and Hawai'i, straight white women You in straight white men basically can't get a date with a white man. Because, only date Asian women here. I exaggerate? Well, yes, for rhetorical purposes the space I would I do. Be forwarmed, this is a manifesto. But if I had transcribe the local personal ads (Erotic SWM, just returned Oriental from Japan, seeks sweet, unpretentious, thin, petite girl"), and then you would understand. For now you just have to believe me. I am a white female PhD candidate at the University of Hawai'i anthropology department, studying interracial relationships between Asians and whites (not that that's why you should believe me), and my husband is Japanese. I'm speaking not as an "anthropologist" here but as a white woman who lives in Hawai'i, who has an Asian husband, and who is in the field of Asian Studies. And what is it that I'm trying to say? That white women, for whatever it's worth, have been, as socialogist David Minkus puts it, "displaced by Asians as the fantasy object of desire" for white men. But wait, you say, even if this is true, what's to prevent white women from following the wonderful, 'progressive" example of white men, and date non-whites — in this 🚉 case, Asian men? But this is where it gets complicated.

You see, here in racist America, we are trained to see Asian Scholar Richard Fung titles his groundmen as dickless losers. essay on American media depictions of Asian men, breaking "Looking For My Penis," and in it he observes: "Whereas, as Fanon tells us 'the Negro...is a penis,' the Asian man is defined as...having no sexuality ...a striking absence down there." I might ask you, have you ever seen a virile and attractive Asian man depicted in our media? (And please don't mention "The Lover." He way have been buff, but his character was a wimp). Consequently, I have found that the vast majority ofwhite women, consciously or unconciously, do not consider Asian men a viable option. This is called racism, and I am not excusing it. However, as Curtis Chung (in a column entitled "Why I Date White Women"), even Asian American has claimed 'seem to take on faith the insidious party women,

"seem to take on faith the insidious party
line about Asian men — small, boring,
selfish. 'A big white guy,' they might
casually say, as though there are no big
Asian guys...(or) 'fun white guy,' some
women casually say, as if to imply
that you have to be white to be fun."

white women are not seen

article, Ourtis Chung

I might add, however, that "big, hairy, fat, feminist" as real attractive by a lot of Asian men either. In the same goes on,

I find many attractive qualities about Asian women. They are sensitive to unspoken feelings...They have fine skin, slender figures, pretty hands, even a pleasing body odor.

What are you saying, Curtis? That white women are insensitive, fat, coarse fingered and smelly?

Of course, this is deeply conflicted territory. As Japanese American woman Jan Masanka writes poignantly,

I guess that one of the most difficult things for me to understand is how to relate to my boyfriend who is white...loving him, hating myself for loving a white man, hating him because

he's white...feeling guilty for not having an Asian boyfriend, feeling that I'm taking unfair advantage of my social and sexual mobility racially when Asian men don't have that mobility, and being afraid of what other people think about my going with a white man—it's just really frightening.

Chinese American man Anson Gong writes, equally poignantly:

As a student activist I worked with many Asian American men and women. I noticed that some of these active women whom I admire were going out with white men. This 'bugged the hell out of me'! Were these women doing something contradictory and hypocritical?... Are we AA men really perceived as wimpy, asexual, unattractive geeks? Even by some progressive AA women? Do they find white men more attractive than AA men? I don't know. I struggled with these questions for a long time.

And just to round out the quotes, here's MaryEllen Nugent Lee, a white women who is married to a Karean man:

When we started dating, I asked him about his former girlfriends. Snyly, he confessed that there were no others to speak of: I was shocked! This kind and handsome, thoughtful and intelligent man had never been involved. Why? 'What would a Korean woman want with me when she can have an American serviceman (who can give her) more money and a ticket to the U.S.?' he replied.

This is heavy stuff, and I particularly want to respect the words and conflicts of Asian and Asian American women and men who are forced by our racist, sexist society and world to confront these issues. Issues about which white men are pretty much indifferent/oblivious, and issues in which white women are certainly not immocent. I'm not trying to point a finger at Asian women, or claim white womenhood as the newest victimized category. The system makes victims of us all. But I'm also pissed as hell. Because there's a hell of a lot of hypocrisy going on here too. The majority of white men I know out here date exclusively Asian women. They are surrounded by Asian women. They break up with their white girlfriends from the mainland in order to pursue Asian women. They divorce their middleaged white wives from the mainland in order to marry Asian women barely out of their teens. And, I might add, these are guys two would not blocks wise be

would not, looks-wise, be giving Tom Cruise any close competition.

Yet when I bring up the topic of race and sex, they accuse me of I am trying to make something political out of "true love."

You men are saying something like giving Tom Cruise any close competition.

Topic of race and sex, they accuse me of I am trying to make something political "True love??" Excuse Me? I know what in your locker/boardrooms. It sounds this:

"Japanese women are not equal-time orgasm fanatics. They don't castrate their men psychically, which is more than I can say for a lot of American women"...
"Asian women are graceful, polite and considerate... white women are big, overweight Amazonians, with no bra, frizzy hair and lots of freckles"... One trip to the shopping mall will show you why there is an attraction to rice rather than to lumpy mashed potatoes"..."Up here you've got all these incredibly obnoxious, dominating, demanding American and Australian women...down here you got all these feminine Asian girls. It's easier to bring these girls up than the other ones down..."

Can you say "fear of castration," boys and girls? Of course, in public it's described as an example of white male progressive multicultural sensitivity. According to bell hooks, in this "multicultural" age it's now de rigeur for white male liberals to sleep with a woman of color at least once, kind of as a rite of passage. E.g., "I'm not a racist. Why, I've dated Mexican women, Indian women, Black women and Asians!"

Yeah, yeah, I know what you're saying. <u>Some</u> of you are really in love. Well, I know that. But love doesn't make racism and power go away. It doesn't make politics obsolete. Because if love really has no color, as the Bennetton ads trumpet, if it really is just an issue of plain old "individuals," as the apologists claim, then why is there, on average, only one Asian male—white female couple for every ten Asian female—white male couples you see on the streets of Honolulu? And why are nearly all the mixed race TV newscaster duos, locally and nationally, made up exclusively of Asian women (or other women of color) and white man? Why is there always a single Asian women on the Coors, Miller, Budweiser commercials, but no single Asian male? And why is she always paired with a white man?

Gentlemen, I haven't been skulking around the halls of academia in the unfortunate field of Asian Studies for ten years not to have overheard your little exultant paens to the Asian woman and your contemptuous distribes against me. I know too that half of you (at least) are only in this field to meet Asian women anyway. I know, gentliffen, I know. Yet, when I try to speak, I am met with rage, fury, vituperative personal attacks, or worse yet, by my PhD committee, disinterest. 'Oh, that's not compelling. This is an old story. We want to know new details about Japanese women: That's interesting. Do an ethnography of them. Not white women and white

men." Not compelling to whom, I may ask? I'd say it's pretty damn compelling to me and to my white female friends, that we're distant dained and despised by many of our own men. That this is the outcome feminism. I am bitter, you say? Maybe. Bitter because I've lost friends, been personally attacked, been professionally discussing this subject. I know I'm angry.

I have published and presented papers (obviously not as incendiary as this one) on these and similar topics in a variety of academic venues. But everywhere the response is the

same. Asian men and white women, for the most part, praise my work; Asian woman and white men (to be fair, not all of them) loudly, hysterically condemn it. At the same time, my dissertation committee says it's dull. (Is it significant that, of the five members of my committee, two are white men with Asian girlfriends, and one is a Japanese woman married to a white man?) How can what is so clear and compelling and frustrating and interesting to some of us be, simultaneously, enraging and "dull" to the other half? And when, may I ask, are we going to start asking some productive and potentially liberating questions about the intersections of race, sex, and the politics of love? Not in the past, not in the colonies, not in the nineteenth century, not in some other country, but today, right now, is it that, as Abou Framan observes, "When the foundations in our own lives? Why of desire for a lover are questioned, everyone becomes uncomfortable, feeling attacked on a personal level...when race enters through the portals of the (very) personal, its political"? Come on folks. This is what I say: it loses People wouldn't get so mad if they didn't have something to hide.

The Autho



EVELYN WEXLER's majorly race- and genderfucked book of poems, The Geisha House can be ordered from Mayapple Press, PO Box 5473, Saginaw, MI 48603-0473, for *** \$6.50.

lue

The Yellow Kimono

Novice geisha serves me. Stands against the light. Shojis

Stands against the light. Shojis
wide open. Behind him the garden.

Sun streams through tissue silk,
outlines curve of his back, boyish thighs,
writing shape of his sex. relaxed, waiting shape of his sex.

Shyly he draws me to him, disrobes me, undoes my hold on the street. Strips heavy blue serge.

with bone buttons, unlaces my oxfords, removes my kerchief, does not care that my hair has gone gray.

Slowly I become naked. The tatami under my feet curves ridges in my soles.

He offers me two lucent bowls. Shallow spirals of Mandarin oranges. In each center a truffle

like nipple on his breast, floats in semen. Tart and sweet. Her and him. I curl my tongue around it.

He drops his robe. Skin holds his glow. I race thunder. Tenderly, like sea foam, like blessings

he wraps me in soft folds of his yellow kimono, kisses my words. I mist in all my spaces, turn liquid gold for shining geisha. The son.





Evelyn Wexler



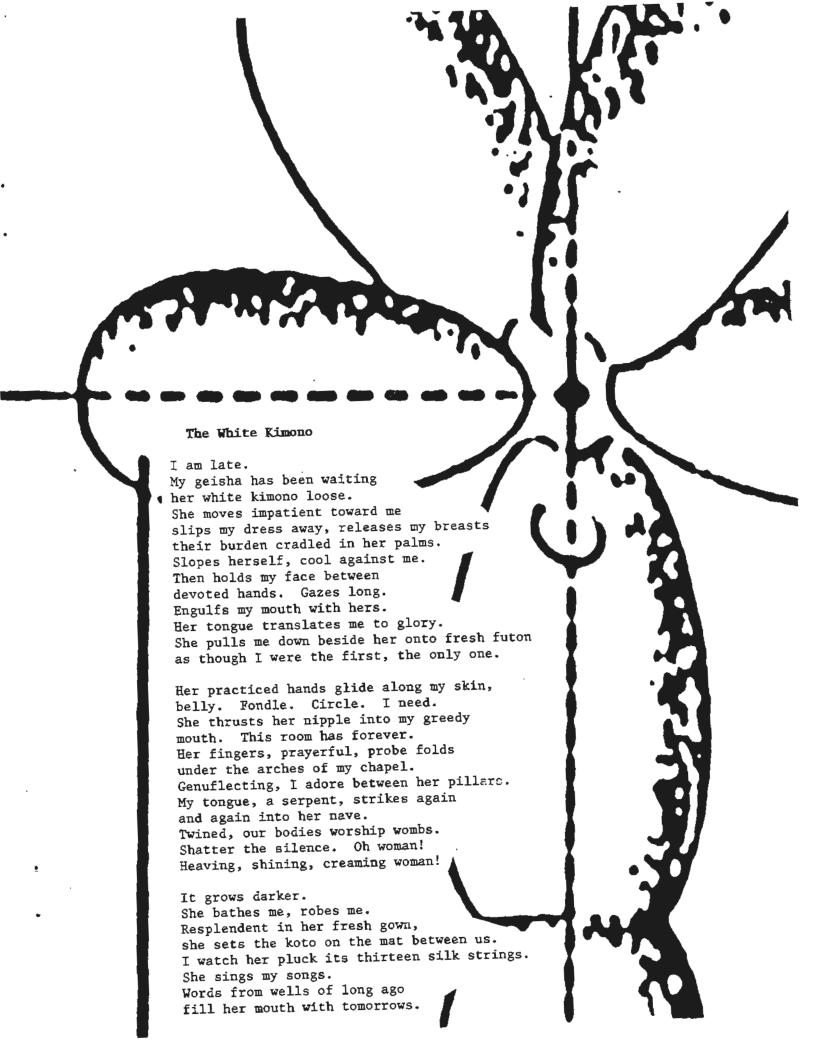
"Some men bind women's hair, and some dishevel it and let it down." --Inscription on Japanese print by Marayochi, 1790s

The Black Kimono:

He slides apart the shoji screen First the left one, then the right. Enters, skin pale against the short black kimono.

Though I live in winter, spill black ink on water, my geisha sings to me of geese in flight against a full moon. A river. Though my eyebrows are shorn, he unwinds my hair, dishevels it. Wild. Wild hair. I swing my head. Prowl. He stays near my thrashing hair. Lifts me to the willow, lets me reach its mourning branches. I feel its tresses, shrink from its black scrawl. Take my ink and brush, splatter his pure kimono. Again and again I hurl promiscuous dribbles at his gown. Make red gashes. He breathes and the slashes live. Happy with my scarlet spatter he laughs, unknots his sash. The dropped folds of kimono sleeves ripple into crevice of his elbows. I bend my head against moist matted breast. He swirls, delivers my sizzling, hectic hair.

...I stamp
my name on his bare thigh.
In red. In red...





Scifi Connfession

by Anna

I am compelled for some reason to read bad science fiction. I mean, I don't start out reading it because it's bad, usually I'm pretty excited at first. Take the book I just read, for example, The Wall at the Edge of the World by im Aikens. "A genuinely talented writer," gushes Science Fiction Chronicle on the cover. I wasn't immediately taken in, as I try not to judge books by their covers, but when I started reading it in the sorre, it looked like on of the kind I like: weird society which has sprung up after huge nuclear disaster, including extrasensory abilities. So I bought it.

And I'm reading along, things are interesting, it's the future, everybody is hooked into a telepathic net thing, the ktess, they live in this nice place that used to be California, and then, all of a sudden, the peace is shattered by these wild women with bad hair who come over the wall mentioned in the title in search of husbands. See, their men have been dying and they need more. They really freak out the people behind the wall because the rest of the world is supposed to be empty, and plus, the wall people aren't used to violence. Anywya, the main guy, Danlo, and one of the women, Linnie, end up getting together because he gets lost outside the wall. And the most amagine thing happens. As soon a spanlo fucks her, Linnie changes from a strong rampaging warrior woman to a dickwhipped woman/child. She speaks lispingly in Danlo's language rather than make him learn hers, which would be more sensible, since she's the only one who knows how to survive in the wilderness. Instead, she cuddles up to him and says (I kid you not),

"Danlo strong, does many things," she murmured into his neck.
"Linnie thinks Danlo throws mountains, catches stars in mouth.
Linnie has air inside head."

I've been reading science fiction long enough to know what a racist, sexist history it has, and I'm used to being offended at least once or twice in the course of an otherwise good read, but this? It utterly amazes me that somewhere along the way Jimmy-boy didn't get called on his truly horrifying dickocentric despicableness.

Every hopeful, however, I keep picking up new novels, keep watching "Star Trek the Next Generation" night after night, trying to excuse the bad parts and latch onto the good parts. Sometimes it pays off: China Mountain Zhang by Maureen F. McHugh is really good, although she does fall into a sexist trap with one of her women characters. Otherwise, the world is really cool and well done: America down at the heels, China controlling the economy and influencing everything. The main character is a biracial man, half-Chinese, half-Latino, whose parents had him made over to look Chinese in order to advance his work possibilities. He's also bent, and this is not an easy thing, when being found out to be gay could get you way in trouble.

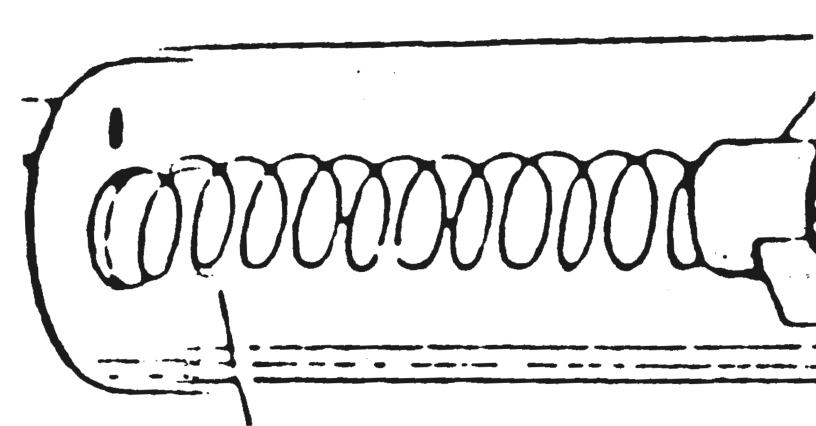
Another good read was <u>The Cipher</u>, by Kathe Koja, queen of yuck. Two extremely repulsive young people find what seems to be a tiny black hole in the closet of their run-down apartment building. They fuck by it, and the girl wants the guy to stick his dick in it. It just gets grosser. I really liked this book, but haven't built up enough strength yet to read her second novel, <u>Bad Brains</u>, which is sitting on my bookcase

all shiny new and scary, just waiting.

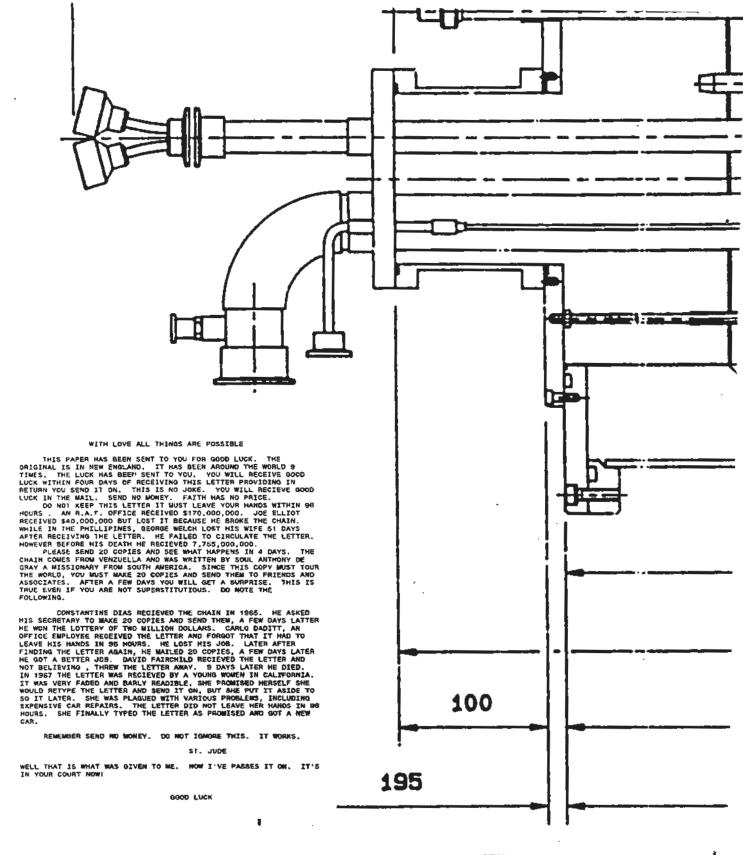
On a recent "Star Treck the Next Generation" rerun, they went to this one planet, Onara. "Onara" means "fart" in Japanese.

"It's as if we are on the ship, and we could actually be flying through space!"

GLASS TUBE







WHO DID THIS TO ME? In my opinion, it's GOOD LUCK to break chain letters.

(EXCLUDING WINCH)



DO NOT COME



GOT IT GOING ON LATIN OR GBM LATIN OR GBM Handsome, healthy, prof. Together GBM 34 57". N2 Together GBM 34 57". N2 Together GBM 34 57". N2 Together GBM 34 57". N2

together GBM 34 5, passion, wkng out, arts, gd conversation, laughs. Sks same sexy uncurt a Latin or GBM 30-40 for trndship & safe hot times.

BW Box 8201. \$\times\$(9)

SEEKING ASIAN MAN
FOR DATING
GWM 37 tall & thin. Attr.
bookish, unassuming.
enjoy film. art.
enjoy titness. you
conversation, titness. you
are intelligent with stender
build. BW Box 198.(8)

DO YOU EXIST?

SEEKING GBM

26 yr old GWM 6' 180 br/br,
prof, non prom sks mant,
GBM 26-35 w/similar qualiBW Box 3267. V(18)

TAOISM?

GWM 39 (lks younger) dk
hair/eyes 170 sks G/Bi
W/E Asian M into martial
arts, Tai Chi, Taoism, etc
for frndshp/rel. Tops a +.

BW Box 3092. V(7)

GOING TO JAPAN THIS SUMMER

GWM 33 gdlkng, fun into sports, movies, arts etc.
Discreet sks GAM 19-29 to experience culture & fmdshp & learn about you.

BW Box 3020. ▼(9)

CITY GIRL-COUNTRY

GBF 35 5'6" attr, fit, enjoys ski, hike, bike, dance, romance. Sks GWF, fit, same likes for friendship or more. Take a chance. BW Box 3573. ▼(45)

GM LATINO HUSKY
26 SKNG BROTHERS
For friends or more. Be
Latino/black 20-35. I'm
sincere, funny & down to
Earth. You be the same.
POB 8143 Boston MA
02114. BW Box 3163.

▼(9)

DONDE ESTAN LOS
HISPANOS MACHOS?,
Gringo 30 intelectual,
guapo dvrtdo masc,
altoforni do barbudo,
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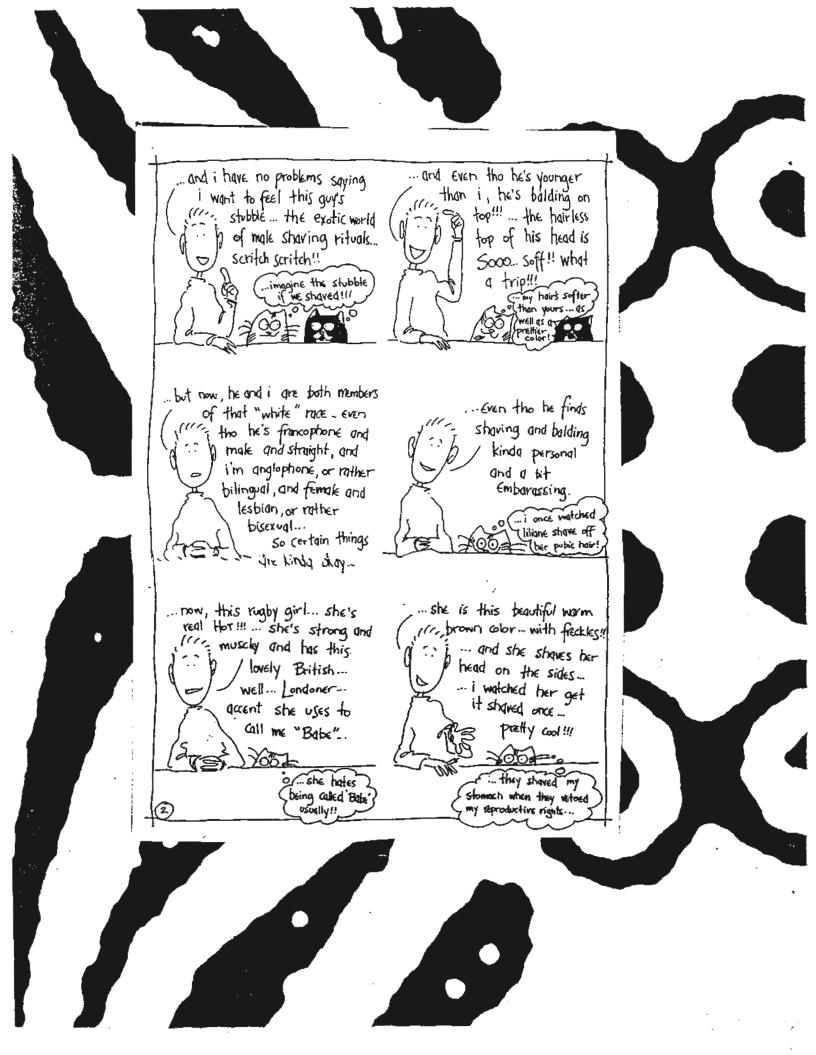
WILL TEACH ORIENTAL ART OF LOVE

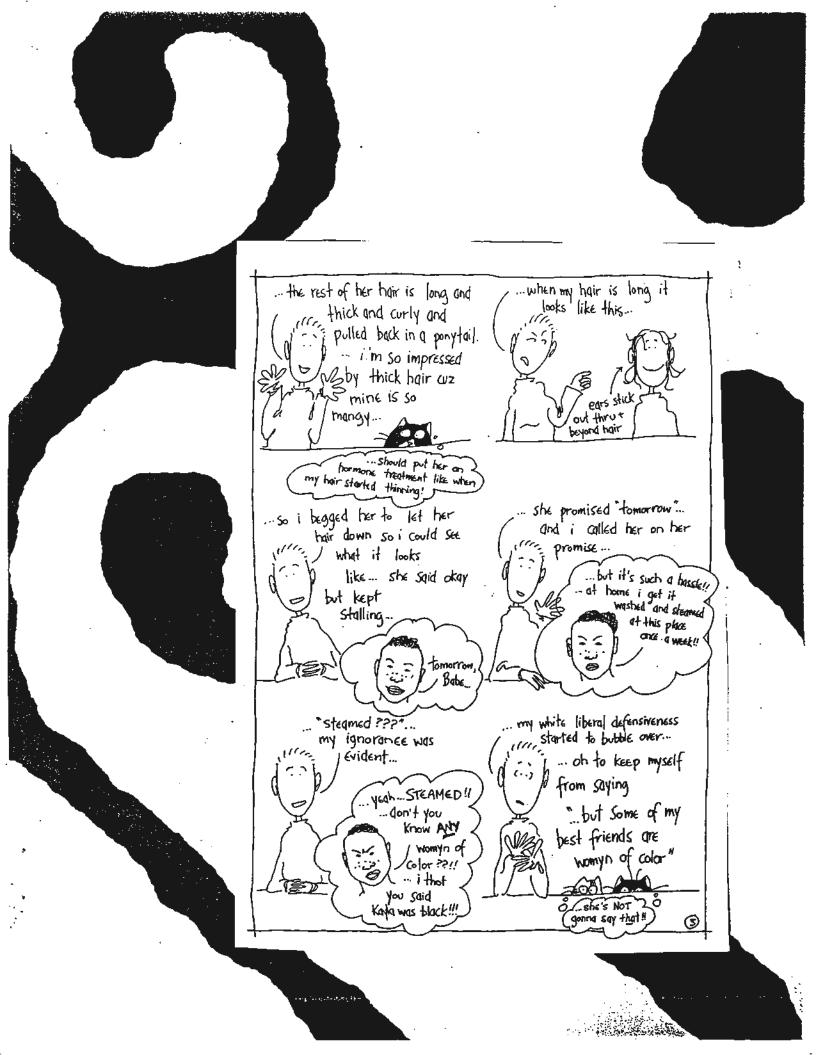
Oriental BIM 45 sks M/F
Oriental BIM 45 sks M/F
couple to make up my mind
couple to make up my mind
sexually over softness of
sexually over softness of
sensual F or hardness of
hung BIM while teaching
hung BIM while teaching
art. BW Box 3916. (4)

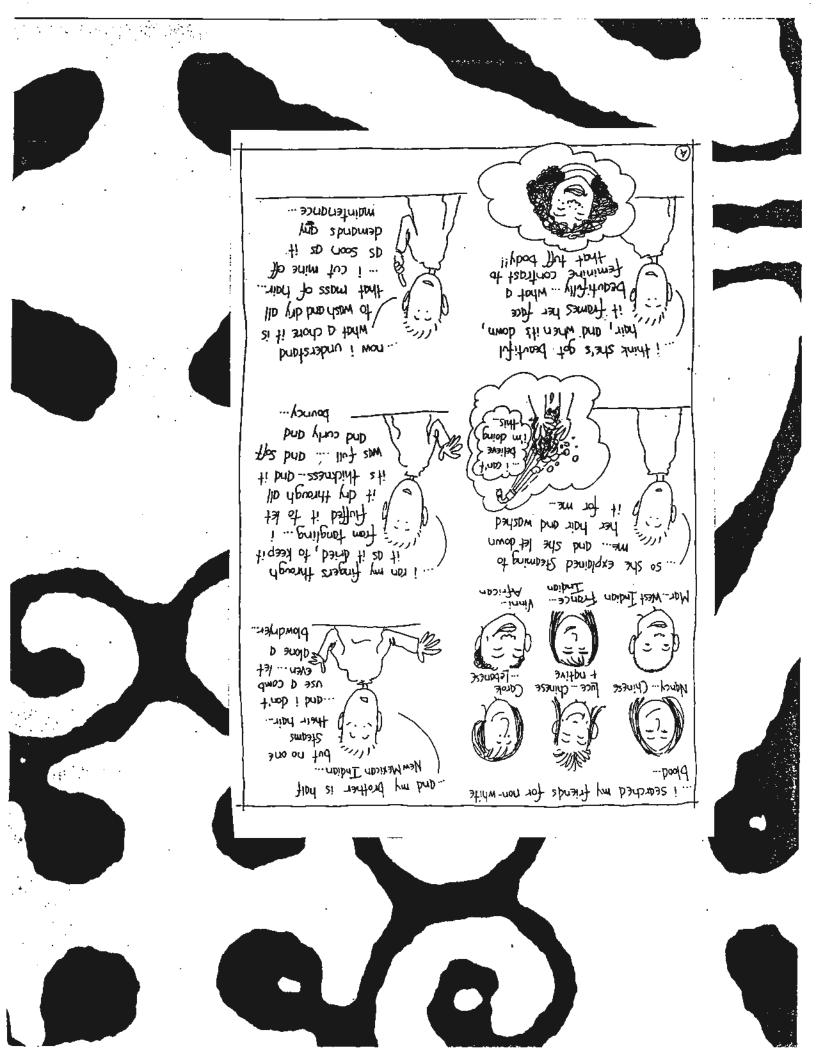
WOMEN SEEKING MEN

Attractive half-oriental/cauc., SF, 20, 576'; seeks SM, 21-35, local Japanese, Hawn./Cauc. or other mix for cycling, bodybuilding & romance? P.O. Box 61383, Honolulu, 96839.











Seminal books from the Seventies

this one reviewed by ROSEMARY LEWIS

Who doesn't know <u>Alive</u>, the account by Piers Paul Read of the 1972 airplane crash in the Andes? A Uraguayan rugby team chartered the flight from Montevideo, Uraguay, to Santiago, Chile. Most of the passengers were young men — rugby players. For the trip to be financially possible, the remaining seats on the plane were sold to friends, supporters, and family members, and a married couple on their second honeymoon.

Though the seventies were a time of political unrest in many South American countries, including Uraguay and Chile, the boys on this trip were from traditional Catholic backgrounds. They all possessed a deep belief in God. Thus, once faced with the reality that their rescue was not imminent, they looked towards the bodies of those who had been killed in the crash, who died from their wounds, or who perished in a later avalanche, as a source of food.

The survivors believed the bodies were the vessels in which their friends' souls had resided. The souls having long since passed to Heaven. One survivor compared eating the human flesh to taking communion. "We eat the body of Christ for our spiritual survival," he said. "Now we'll eat of these bodies for our physical survival."

Ten weeks later, back in Uraguay, the Catholic church, though rejecting the communion analogy, supported the cannibalism on which the rugby players' survival depended.

The book has awkwardly written passages, making it seem like it has been translated from another language. It closely follows both the crash survivors and their parents back in Uraguay, who consulted with psychics and prayed to the Virgin of Garabandal, as well as hiring helicopters and airplanes, offering rewards, distributing flyers, and encouraging the air force to continue searching.

The boys grew weak as the time passed on the mountain. There was no vegatation or wildlife. They had an ample supply of cigarettes, but the candies, jam, and crackers from the airplane quickly ran out.

They are the human flesh in small pieces, usually raw to preserve the vitamins. Eventually they also are the internal organs. The bodies of those who died in the crash were favored because they had more meat than those who were killed weeks later in a nightime avalanche.

The women were not eaten. Neither was a boy who was a cousin to several of the survivors. There were daily squabblings and short tempers. Confidence in their rescue rose and fell. Bodily functions were an important part of daily life. The boys were either painfully constipated or had uncontrollable diarhea. The cold and lack of food had a numbing effect on the sexual desires of these young men at their sexual peak.

Their rescue came after the two strongest boys marched for ten days, first reaching the highest summit, then trudging down into a valley where they met up with some Chilean villagers. Government officials were notified, and over the next few days, helicopters dangerously maneuvered to the crash site and air-lifted the remaining survivors.

The introduction to the book notes that the survivors, upon reading their story, wished it had expressed more strongly their faith in God.

Now, over twenty years after the crash, a movie based on this book is in the theaters. Recently, an article in the <u>Washington Post</u> followed up with the men. Most came across as aloof. Two decades separate them from that trip to the Andes. They want very much to separate themselves from those days.

I was reminded of my mother's cousin, who fought in the Abraham Lincoln Brigade during the Spanish Civil War. When I spoke to him about it — 45 years after the fact — he pool-pooled what he'd done.

"I was a young man," he told me. "It was a long time ago."

COOLANT

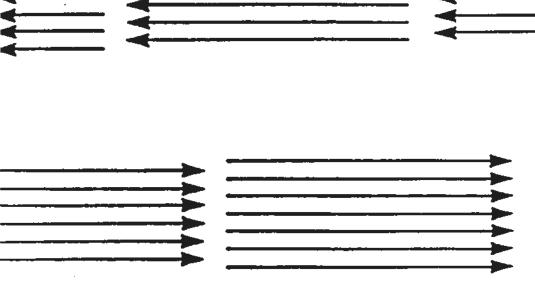
CLAIRE OF THE MOON — "One woman's journey into her sexual identity." Written and directed by Nicole Conn. Starring Trisha Todd, Karen Trumbo, Damon Craig and Faith McDevitt.

reviewed by Alma

Well, what did I expect from
a film that Barbara Grier of Naiad
Press calls "a miracle"? But having
just engaged in a bit of what I believe
is referred to as Dyke Drama via the US
mail and the telephone, I was in the mood
for Escape, Pretty Women, Hot Sex and Happy
Endings. Alas, it was not to be, although
the first shot looked promising: Clair and
her boyfriend fucking on the floor — not what
you normally expect to see at the opening of a
lesbian movie.

As soon as the first word is spoken, however, after Claire has hopped into her sporty little car with the custom license plates ("CeaJae") and headed out to a writers retreat on the coast, I knew I was doomed. Boomed to sit through another shitty piece of work we whymen are supposed to revere simply because it has women fucking in it. The acting was horrible, wooden and unbelievable, as was the dialogue and the plot. Like most bad films, there was an overriding sense of smugness about the movie, as though the actors knew something we didn't. This is one result of poor writing and editing -- things kept coming out of nowhere, people's emotions were unfathomable, their actions obscure. When the wiry old dyke who runs the writers retreat (well, at least she looked the part) blurts out angrily, after a long tirade a propos nothing when that I could see, "When you eat pussy, you eat pussy!" I almost gave up and went home. What was she so angry about? Who knows.

I guess the idea sounded good to Conn and her supporters: a sexy, devil-may-care, sensuous type, author of the wacky Life Can Ruin our Your Hair — oh yeah, and she thinks she's straight — ends up rooming with an uptight, broken-hearted, intellectual shrink who's working on pornography for her next book (guess if she's pro or con). At first, they hate each other. Claire goes to the local hangout and fucks men and the shrink can't deal with Claire's laissez-faire house cleaning, her, odd hours and her incessant smoking; Claire thinks the shrink needs to chill. But the wiry old dyke who runs the place knows better, and sure enough, the two women — who both look good in jeans — start gravitating towards each other.

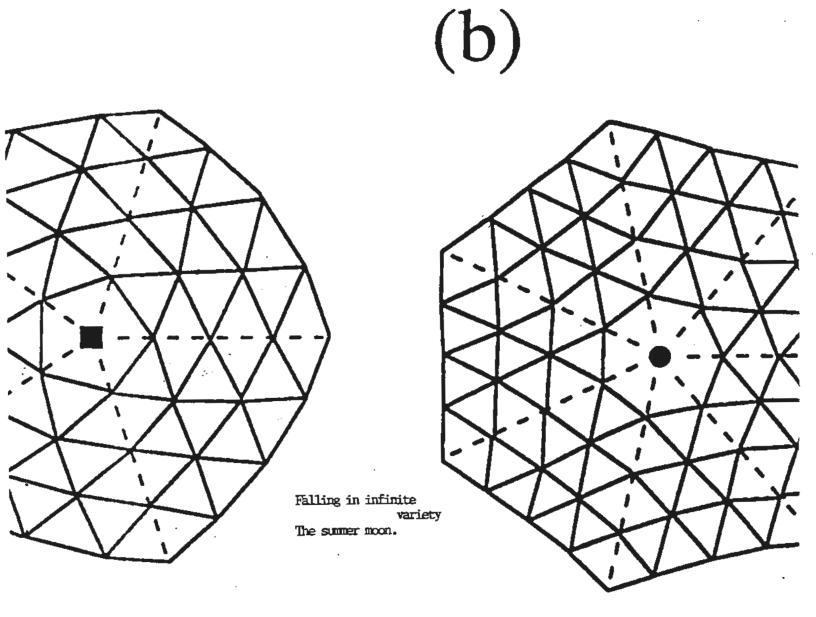


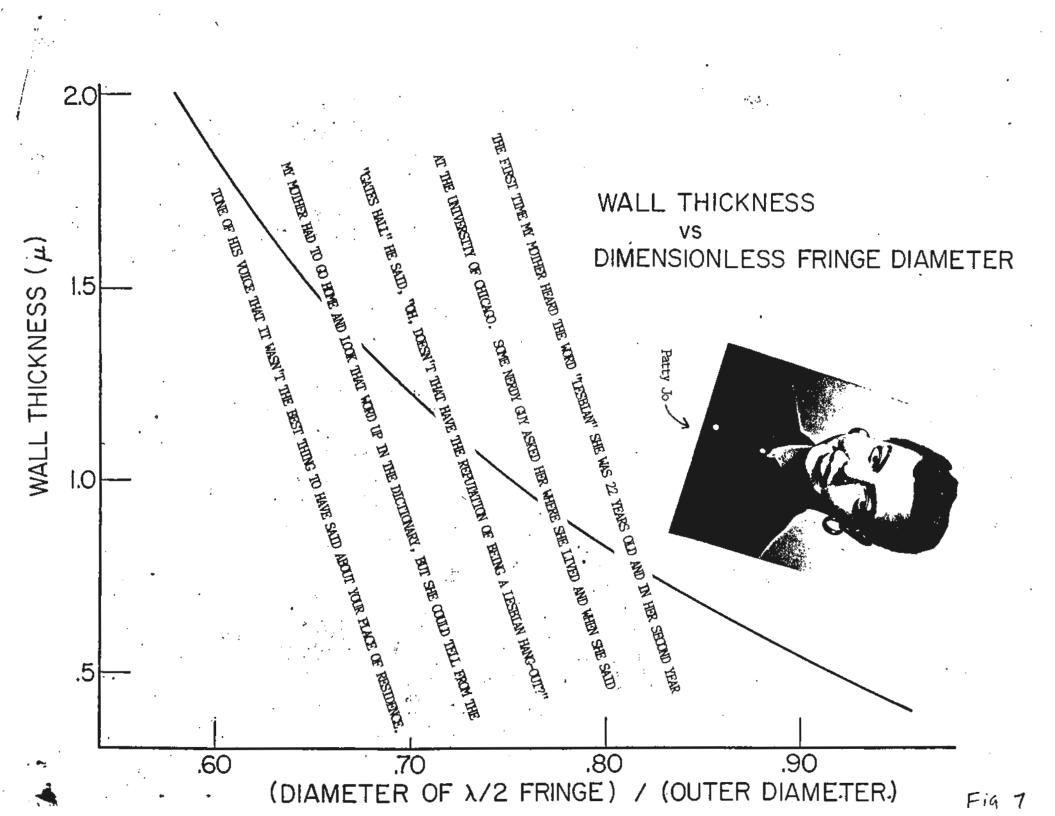
Claire becomes curious about what it's like when women do it, but is blown off several times by the shrink and blows her off in turn. I mean, it takes them forever to get it together, hampered as they are by terrible dialogue: "It's hard to share paradise with a stranger." "We come from such different worlds." And the inevitable, "What are you afraid of, Claire?" As for the writers colony, it's peopled with onedimensional, stereotyped women: the spacy, new age mystic, the unenlightened-but-getting-there housewife, the way-far-out poet, the southern bell who writes romance fiction about throbbing organs, and, of course, the wiry old dyke mentioned above. Add to this a bit of muddled dialogue about men and women and intimacy ("I didn't hate them, but pity them -I understood power," says Claire of men. "If men can't batter and abuse in some powerful, bleeding way, they're helpless and lost forever. Extinguished from the mother's breast...") and there you have it. One sexy dance scene and this is supposed to te the next "Desert Hearts"? Why does there have to be a next "Desert Hearts" anyway? "Desert Hearts" is perfectly fine the way it is -- why can't there just be a wide variety of well-made films about women's sexualities in all their many forms? Why does there have to be just one allotted leshian film every 10 years?

So, at the end, has Claire converted? Throughout the film we see her joyfully fucking men. She also joyfully fucks the shrink. The last shot is of the two women strolling along the beach laughing and talking and short of hopping around. Is (gasp) the sexual identity Claire is journeying into bi? Sure, why not — but do we even want this film? I, personally, do not. I was insulted by "Claire of the Moon" — I expect and deserve better, as do we all. I do my best to support the truly creative, moving lesbian/bi works in the hopes that someday I'll be able to choose a movie that's innovative and real, instead of having to slap down six bucks for the latest "miracle".

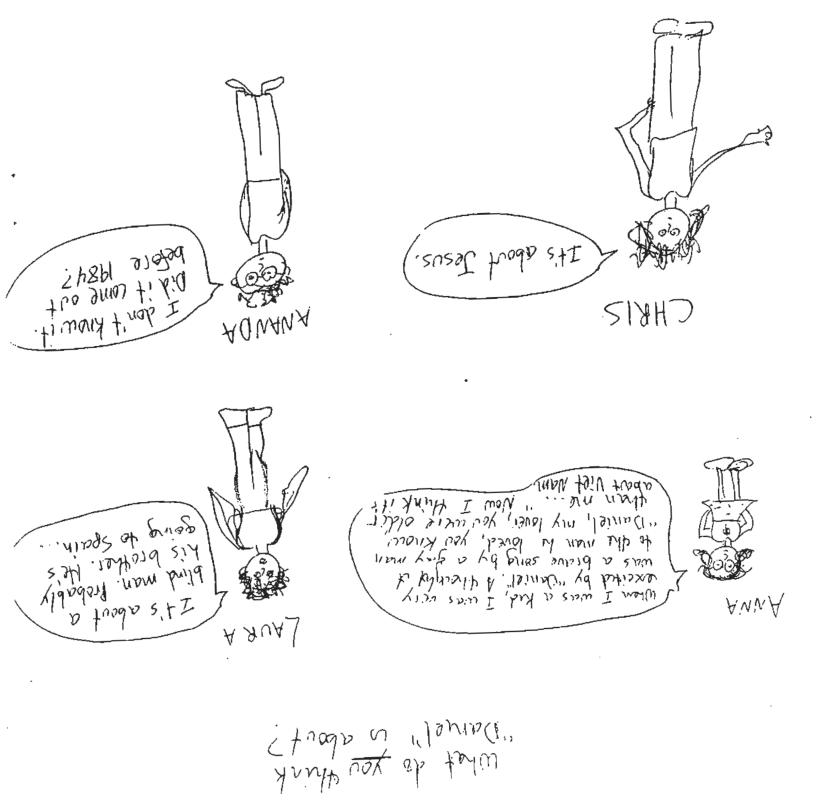
Awake 5:14 In the Morning Composing

I knew it was there —
The moon — I opened the door
& there it was.









774 30 2NOS 7NH-2N/NYJW 1.50W 3HL

Marabel Morgan Post Office Box 380272 Mlami, Florida 33138 (305) 824-0011 The Cotal Woman

HARABEL MORGAN

P O Box 200277 Little River Station haml, Floride 33138

SHARDH HOLLINGER PO Box 386 Madison, Onio 45346 (513) 996-5381

November 5, 1992

Dear Anna,

Thank you for your recent letter to Marabel. As you may know it is impossible for Marabel to answer her mail on a personal basis. However, she has read your letter very carefully, and has asked me to reply.

I am pleased to tell you that Total Woman is alive and well in the 90's! Seminars are still being offered around the country by request. These seminars are still taught by authorized instructors of the program. If you are interested in bringing a seminar to your area, that can be done without cost to you or your church or organization. If interested, feel free to contact me for details.

In the past years, by teaching these seminars, I personally have discovered that we women are basically all alike. We want to 1) feel good about ourselves 2) want our lives to have purpose and meaning and 3) we want to love and be loved. Total Woman offers a program that gives specific direction and builds confidence. It's principles are timeless.

Thank you for sharing your interst with us. If we can be of further help, do let us know.

Sincerely,

Homa Halliage Sharon Hollinger

Dear Friend:

I have just written a new book entitled, the Electric Moman, which is dedicated to every woman

Who broke her nail,

Or dropped a plate,

Or changed a diaper,

Or gained five pounds,

Or jost her glasses,

Or got a runner,

Or burned the roast,

Or waited to checkout,

Or argued with the repairman,

...this week.

Each of us is constantly bombarded with downers of all types - not only the A-61, heavy duty, all-purpose, wipe-out downers, like divorce, disease or death, but also the mini-downers - the little diddly-equat irritations that may us - the broken plate, the broken mail, and the broken promise, all day long.

Most women have no problem coping with the uppers. They can handle success and the fun times and the patties, thank you. They seem well-equipped for lane, fortune and beauty if it tomes their

But what about those downers? Life is what happens when we're stilling sround making other plans. How can we turn these electrices, impulses that impact our system to work for us rather than against we? How do we prevent these negative charges from wiping us out instant of witalizing us to action? Is it possible to channel all this electri-city, these examperating lightning bolts, into a zainbow?

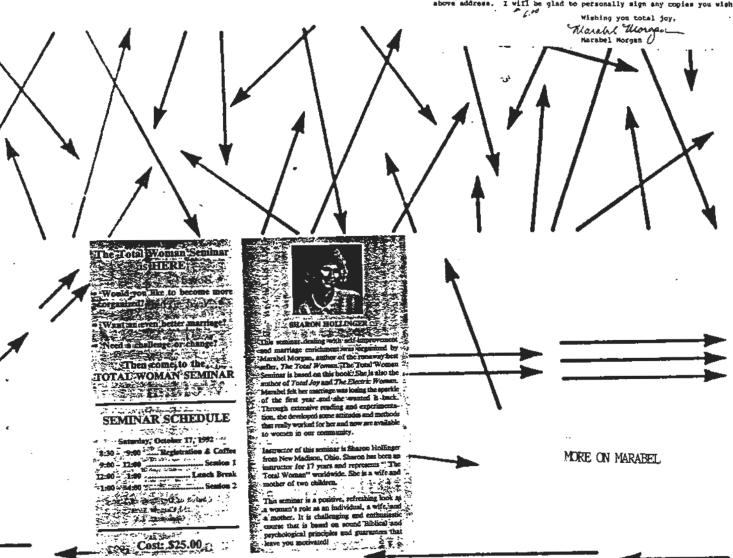
You bet it is: Life is the art of improvisation. The Electric Moman tells how to meet life with cheerfulness, to face tribulation with a strategy, in three different ways:

* <u>Coping with Downers</u> gives Four Ways to Make It Through The Plight - Customize, Cleanse, Challenge and Claim.

Roping for Uppers gives Four Stretching Exercises which (hopefully) will create an environment in which uppers are likely to happen - Dream, Care, Oo and Determine.

* Sharing with Others gives Your Tips For Tired Lovers, Mothers and Others - Laugh, Lift, Love and Listen.

The book, The Electric Momen, is now available in heroback at \$1.75 plus \$1.05 for postage and handling. If you would like a copy please make your cheek for \$11.00 per book payable to see and mail to the above address. I will be glad to personally sign any copies you wish.



SEQUEL PHENOMENOR AUTHORS

Singular Sensations

Richard Bach, Marabel Morgan and David R. Reuben each wrote one ... bestseller. Then, despite subsequent efforts, each slipped from the limelight.

· L.A. Times



By S.I. DIAMOND

t's the dream of authors, the lifeblood of publishing and talk shows. It's the "phenomenon" bestseller, a book whose huge success few predicted but many will Aladir explain.

In a classic case, the book starts with a limited printing and less promotion and "just takes off," moving on the charts, out into worldwide sales in the millions. And the little-known author makes the tours, takes the money and guickly tries to extend the "phenome-

The word is phenomenon because whatever grabbed the public, it wasn't a major new literary talent. It was an ides, so right for the time and the public temper that it could sell two, four, maybe even more sequels in rapid succession, describing a long code of substantial but declining sales until the

basic idea was finally used up.
To the general public, what alloke is
the book that started it. They'll ask, whatever happened to the guy who wrote that book about the sea guil? The "Total Woman"? The doctor who wrote Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex"?

For starters, that's not all they

Al first, Alchard Bach couldn't sell anyone his story of a sea guil dedicated to flying "for the joy of flying" and not ust transport "Jonathan Livingsion Seaguil" was short, precious and heavily inspiring. ("The gull sees farthest who flies highest.") It was universely

The Long Beach minister's son hadn't written it so fast either. He started it at age 23 in 1959, when the beginning appeared to him, mystically, "in Cinerama on my wall," and he "mulled it around" for eight years before the, ending came to him. During that time; he did a lot of flying and a lot of writing; including three books about flying—fly-

Just when his agent advised him to drop this book about the bird, an editor at Macmillan who also flew planes and ked one of Bach's other books wrote to him. The result, Macmillan (which had once turned "Jonathan" down) did a first printing of 7,500 in 1970, and "orders kept coming in, with no promotion, all word of mouth," says Bach. People were seeing things in 'Jonathan' that I had no idea were there."... ..

"Jonathan" has since xold on extimat: ed 30 million copies in 3 dozen lenguag-es. What's more, Bach had more books in him, and more bestaelters-from 1977's "Illusions The Adventures of a Reluctant Messiah" to 1984's "The Bridge Across Forever" and 1988's "One." The last two sold a mere third of a milition copies each—creditable but no "Jonathan," Almost all, says Bach, "use flight as a method to reach inside my

He was also good at the TV shows and the tours. "I could talk about Jonathan," he says. "He was a dear, dear friend who could teach me a lot."

Unfortunately, he who files highest also tempts fate. Bach, he says now, was

"not anywhere near ready to live the consequences of the commercial success." He made millions, couldn't handle it and "did what many did, found a friend and said, "You handle this." By the end of the '70s, he'd lost a fortune, owed a fortune in taxes and declared

bwei a fortune in targe and occurred.

But like anathan, he has prevalled. With tigh help of his second wife, Leslic, whom the sparied in 1981; he got extremely organized and is now hot last solvent but also very comfortable. He lives near Seattle and files a paragilder-"the closest thing to rea! flight

Trying to strike a balance between "overexposure" and "keeping a hand in," Bach only occasionally gives public talks now. As for writing, "every book seems in Jist, until along comes one I can't run away (rom and I'm waking up

can run away trom and i m waking to at 6 a.m. writing notes." ... Meanthne, big 25-year-old son-Jon-alhan tof course)—will take a turn. Morpow, Richard Bach's current pub-lisher, is about to come out with Jonathan's "Above the Clouds," a book about his relitionship with his father.

Marabel Mergan's "Total Woman" was a woman's guide to attaining the good life by making her husband happy, Laced with Christian maxims, it seemed an onlikely bestseller in 1973, its very premise guaranteed to offend the emer-gent feminism of the day.

Her publisher, a religious house, gave it a first printing of 5,000—their idea of big. They ultimately sold more than 1 Please see SEQUEL, ES **SEQUEL**

date on Marabel.

THANKS to Mark Pritchard of the fine zine Frighten the Horses, for this up-

Centiqued from E1 milition copies, and paperback and foreign editions sold several mil-

Morgan, a Minmi resident, was se amazed as her publisher. She was not a writer but a housewife, the says, who found herself "married six years, not communicating with [my] husband and fearful about the future. I'd been trying to change him, which didn't work, when a light bulb went offi I was going to change myself." This involved of-fering her husband heavy doses of appreciation and calculated "elxzie," including a variety of seay "costumes" to greet him at the door. (The most famous-Saran Wran - was not her idea; someone had written her auggesting it)

It worked, noticeably, Her women friends began soking "What happened to Charlie!" and urged her to share her secrets at living. room gatherings for \$15 a person. When the wives of a dozen Mismi Dolohin players came and later joked that her teachings ted to their husbands' Super Bowl victory, Morgan became famous.

The book "was hat a condensa-tion of my class," she says, and was hardly anti-feminist. "I wasn't even aware of a feminist movement. I was involved with the diaper pall." Besides, she was talking to all women, "I think if you're married, you want it to be happy, not miserable. And [the book] struck a nerve because we're all the same. We want to be appreci-

Open and unseauming, she admits she found her sudden elerdom "hard to handle. I had two little kids, my comfort sone was the kitchen—and I was sitting across from Barbara Walters. But my brain just hicked in, and I talked." She interrupted her multi-city tours to go home on weekends, relieve her baby-sitting motherin-law and do the wash.

The classes continued, at their peak invalving 75 teachers, and Morgan continued to write, "Total Joy" (1976) also sold 1 million copies, affering more on marital life, her own and that of others. It

was followed by the quieter "Fotal Woman Cookbook" (1980) and "The Electric Woman" (1985), which gave harried modern women advice on "how to create an atmosphere of uppers" in a life of ups and downs.

All wasn't uppers for Morgan. She didn't mind criticism, believing "controversy's good." But she did mind reporters churning up tales (untrue) of impending divorce and rejecting her denials.

Moreover, Morgan, now 55, has had some health problems, includ-

'[The book] struck a nerve because we're all the same: We want to be appreclated."

MARAGEL MORGAN

ing thyroid cancer several years ago - a series of downers that have only set her philosophy "in con-crele." "If you feel low," she says, 'start cheerleading. The Bible says that as a man thinks in his heart, so is he. And I say a cheerleader never quits, regardless of the

Her daughters are grown, one an attorney, the other working in public relations. Total Woman Inc. utill runs seminars, Morgan still lectures on marriage and family relationships, and her belief in her approach is "stronger than ever."

Other blockbuster authors, though equally unknown, were a lot tess open and ingenuous in their celebrity. Once only apaque or evasive, they're now, as the ageat of one puts it, "unreach-

"Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Sex (But Were Afraid to Ask)" was David R. Reuben's first book, but the Callfornia psychiatrist was not overwhelmed. He had a talent for public appearance—he was on the Tonight Show" a dozen Umcsand he wrote four more pop health books in the decade after his 1969 hit. Then he essentially disappeared.

"Everything You Always Went-ed to Know . . . " rode the crest of

the sexual revolution, giving parlicipants information about exactly what they were doing. It was apparently much-needed. The book sold 1.5 million in hardcover. If million in paperback, and worldwide sales approached 40 million. It even sold to the movies, or at least its title did, with Woody Allen supplying the rest.

Reuben stuck with sex for two more besteellers ("Any Woman Can" and "How to Get More Out of Sex"). He then shifted to nutrition, which sold only slightly less well than sex ("The Save-Your-Life Diet" and "Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Nutrition"). His last-and leastok was 1982's "Mental Health First Ald Manual.

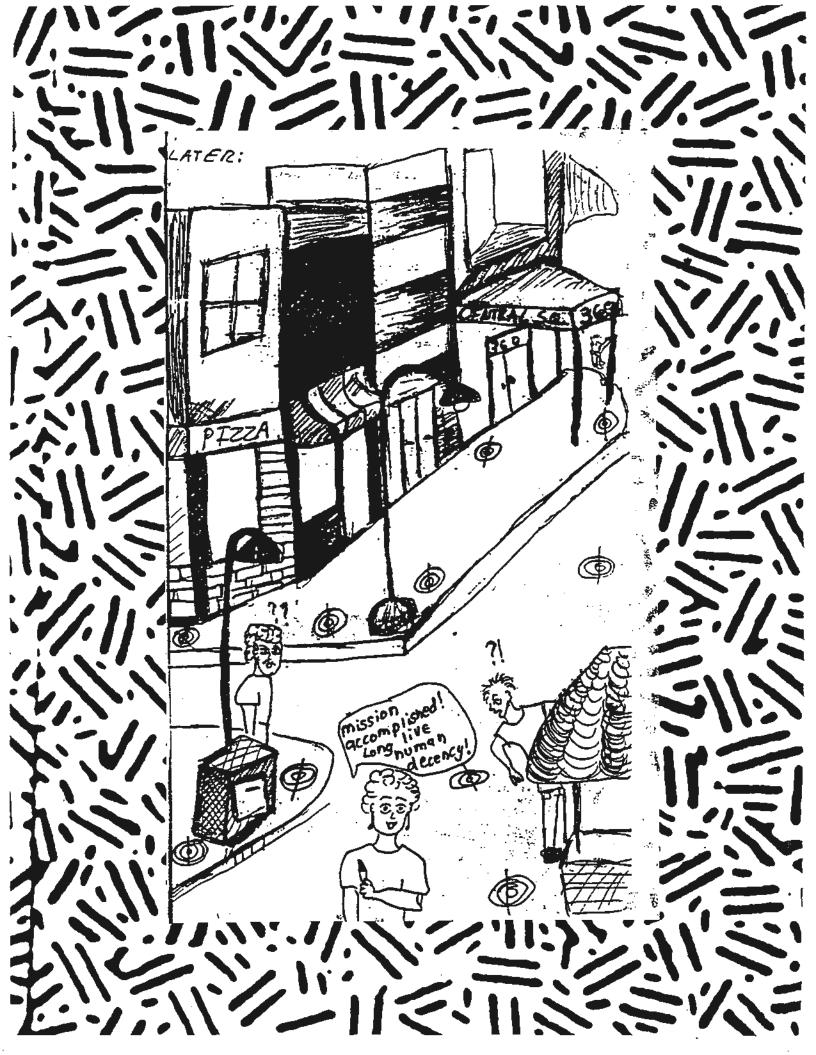
For all the apparent medical expertise, Reuben was somewhat scant on both academic references and professional credentials and didn't much welcome questions According to the American Medical Assn., which he never joined, Reu-ben, now 59, had a medical degree, an internable and only one year of a psychiatric residency. He had no record of further training or specialty certification-only "selfdesignated specialties" in psychiatry, nutrition and clinical pherma-

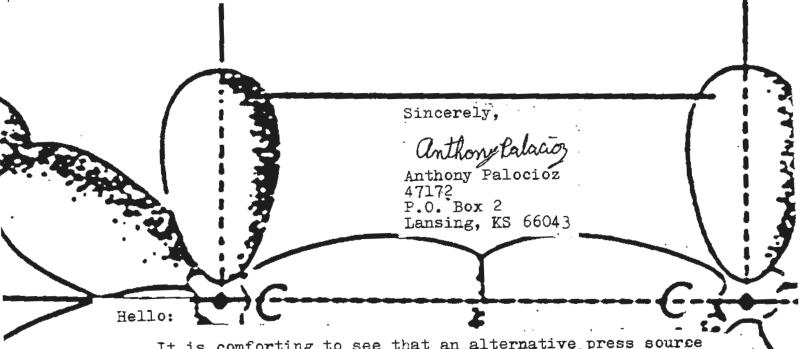
For a white, he practiced in San Diego, changed his name (from Rubin to Reuben) just before his first book, then let his California license lapse in 1976.

By decade's end, he'd had enough of both American practice and public life. He'd offended feminists by his vision of the post-menopausal female as old, unsttractive, "no longer a functional woman." Gays protested what seemed a negative stance on ho-mosecuality. The National Academy of Sciences sued him for disparaging comments on its Food and Nutrition Board,

So he moved to Costa Rica-for "prace," he wrote. In the last decade, he has written mostly, and infrequently, for the Reader's Digest-on the dangers of smoking and suntans. The Digest says he doesn't want to be interviewed or included in any article. But that may change, His New York agent says he's working up a new bookrubject unknowл.







It is comforting to see that an alternative press source like Mousie has covered such overshadowed and often mainstreamed media exploited topics as interracial relationships and bisexuality. Both of which are near and dear to my heart since I am a bisexual Hispanic man who enjoys being with Asian and black men. The mainstream media generally portrays each only as a black and white issue. That is a shallow view and doesn't reflect what is actually happening. I have personally been with Asian men who said they like being with black men and vica versa. White men have told me about their pleasurable experiences with Asian men. What it boils down to is that we are all human and race and color doesn't matter.

tructure of the ethylene molecule C_2H_4 . ler: one σ bond due to sp^2 orbitals of the typals at 120° with this one form the C-H bootals.





They can fuck me real good, some of them, and they tell me stories the likes of which I don't get from my woman friends

like drug-running stories, crosscountry trucking stories, prison and army stories, mob-explosion stories and tales of big-time scam

So I let them regale me. fuck me, then I go back to women again by Karen F.

STONE BUTCH BLUES by Leslie Feinberg

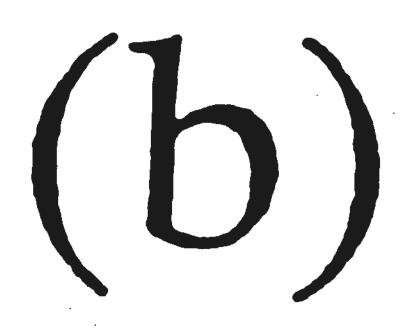
reviewed by Anna

I inhaled this book, I needed it. Once I started reading, I remembered that a section had been in The Persistent Desire; A Femme-Butch Reader, edited by Joan Nestle, which I also inhaled. It was the part about how Butch Al takes our hero, the young he/she, under her wing to teach her what it means to be butch. That is so appealing to me, the whole idea of apprenticeship, of learning how things are done. At any rate, I highly recommend Stone Butch Blues, even though it gets a tad sappy/romantic/ first-novelish at times. It's still a rollicking good read.

Being relatively newly out, I've gotten a lot of history all at once from rabid Michigan Womyn's Festival stuff about genetic girls to stuff about s/m and genderfuck, all at once. So it was great to read a novel that brings to life the pre-Stonewall era: the working class bars of Buffalo where drag queens and he/she's got a small percentage of the place one night a week, the whole butch/femme network in the factories... The level of violence the characters in the book have to put up with is almost beyond belief. No one can arrest me for putting on my suit and walking down the street, but back then you had to have at least 3 items of women's clothing on or anything went.



Stone Butch Blues contains such important information and chronicles such a crucial time in our history. Leslie Feinberg's is the voice of one of our elders. Read this book.



I had heard horror stories about butches and their femmes trying to shop for a suit at Kleinhan's clothing store. But this time Kleinhan's was in for some discomfort as three powerful queens in full drag helped me pick it out.

"No," Justine shook her head emphatically. "She's an encee, not a fucking undertaker."

"Farth tones," Georgetta turned my face in her hands, "because of her coloring."
"No, no, no," Peaches said, "this is it." She held up a dark blue garbardine suit.

"Yes," Justine sighed as I came out of the dressing room. "Yes!" "Ooh, honey, I just might swing for you," Georgetta exclaimed.

Peaches fussed with my lapels. "Yes, yes, yes."

"We'll take it," Georgetta told the salesman, who looked visibly annoyed. "Tailor it for the

child. And make it look nice!" The salesman pulled the tape measure from around his neck and tried to chalk the trousers and jacket without touching me. Finally he straightened up. "You can pick it up in one week," he announced.

•"We can pick it up today," Georgetta declared. "We'll just walk around the store trying things on till it's ready."

"No," the salesman blurted. "Come back in two hours. Just leave now. Just leave."

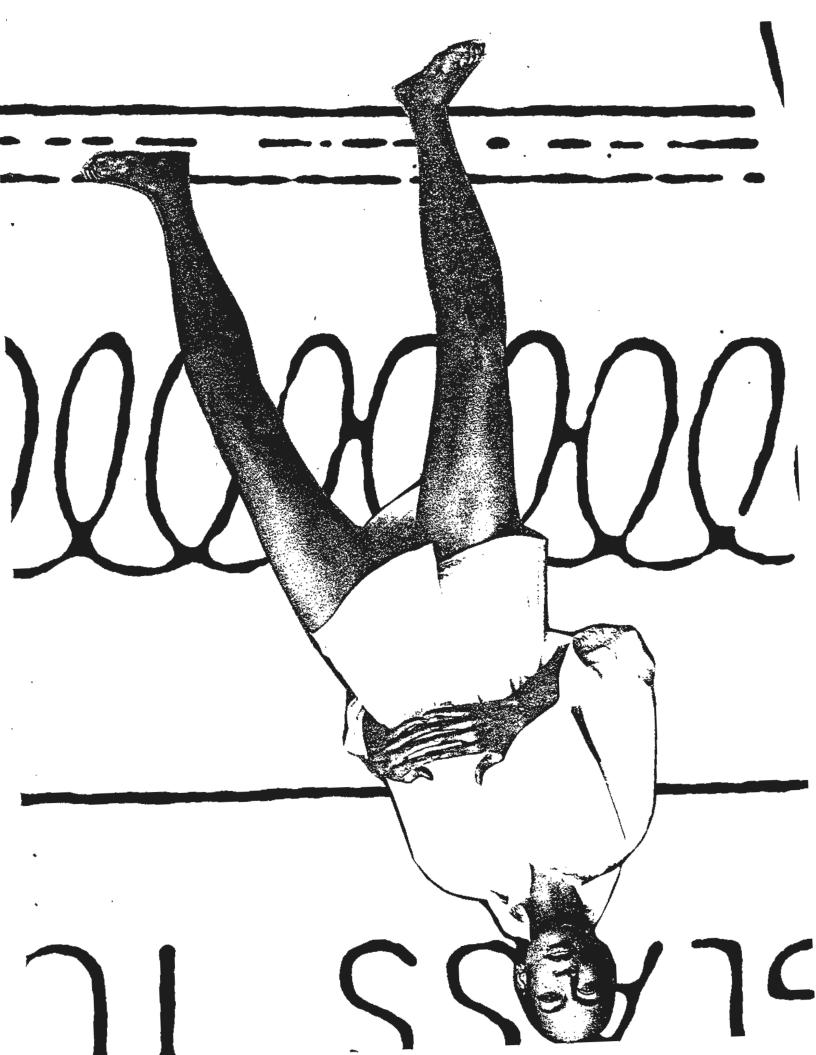
"We'll be back in an hour, darlin'," Justine said over her shoulder.

"See you." Georgetta blew him a kiss.

"C'mon." Peaches waved for me to follow. "It's our turn." They steered me toward the store next door. We were headed for the lingerie department.

the ethylene molecu ond due to sp² orbita with this one form th

Jess and her first suit from STONE BUTCH BLUES by Leslie Feinberg



A MACHINE CALLED BETTY

It was not love at first sight. Call it something else: curiosity, amusement, fascination, desire, but it was not love.

Clarice was not a wealthy woman. She had no trust fund to fall back on, only the black futon couch which she made into a bed each night before she fell to sleep and dreamed of lovers past, present, and future.

Clarice was not broke, but she had to be careful with her money all the time. She was a smart shopper. She knew how to cut corners, but Clarice was also a woman of fine aesthetic sensibilities who took pleasure in sensuous and sensual delights a woman who loved to make love; a woman who loved a dirty fuck. She was a lesbian. She was complex.

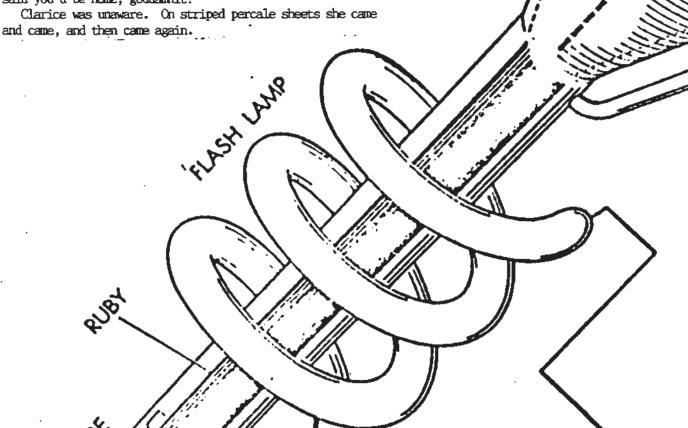
Now Clarice was in trouble. They had said it couldn't happen. In catalogues and pamphlets she was assured that a love like this could never be, would never be. And yet....

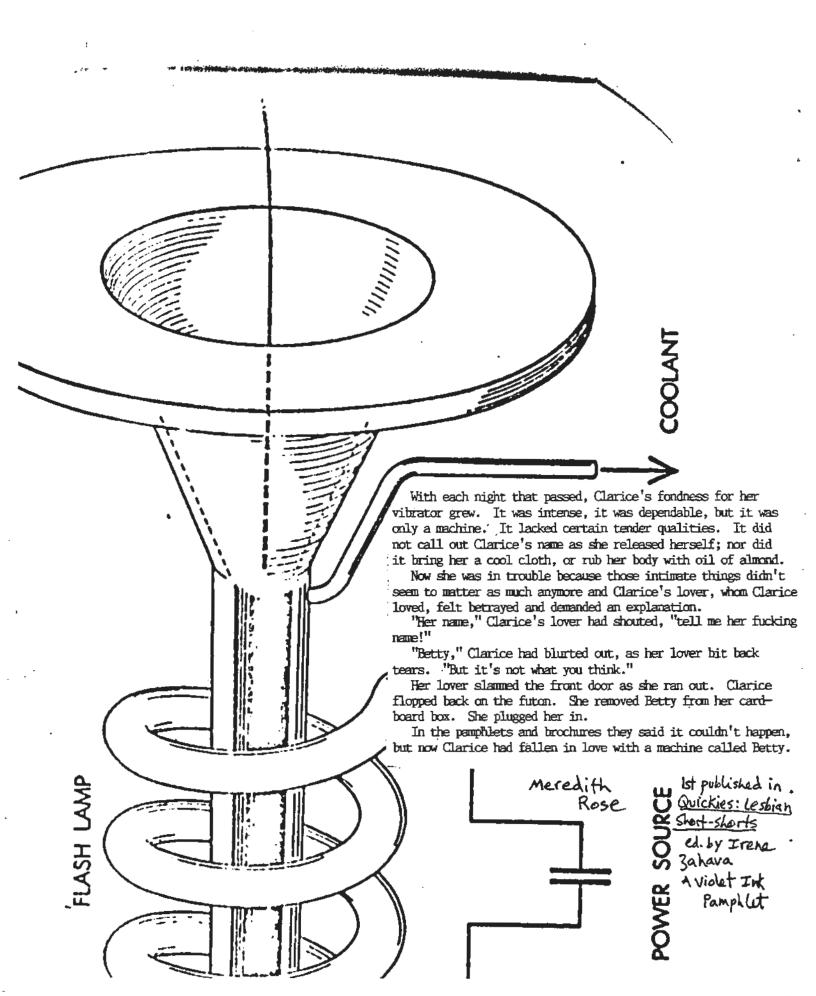
Clarice could not afford the Hitachi Wand or the Panabrator. She had no money for the Oster Stick Massager. So instead, three weeks ago on an overcast Wednesday after work, she drove her Dodge Dart to a nearby mall and made her way to the Domestic Wares aisle of K-Mart shopping center. On the top shelf, next to a row of shower heads, Clarice found what she was looking for. It was electrically operated, it included assorted attachments, it had a full one-year warranty, and most important, it was on sale.

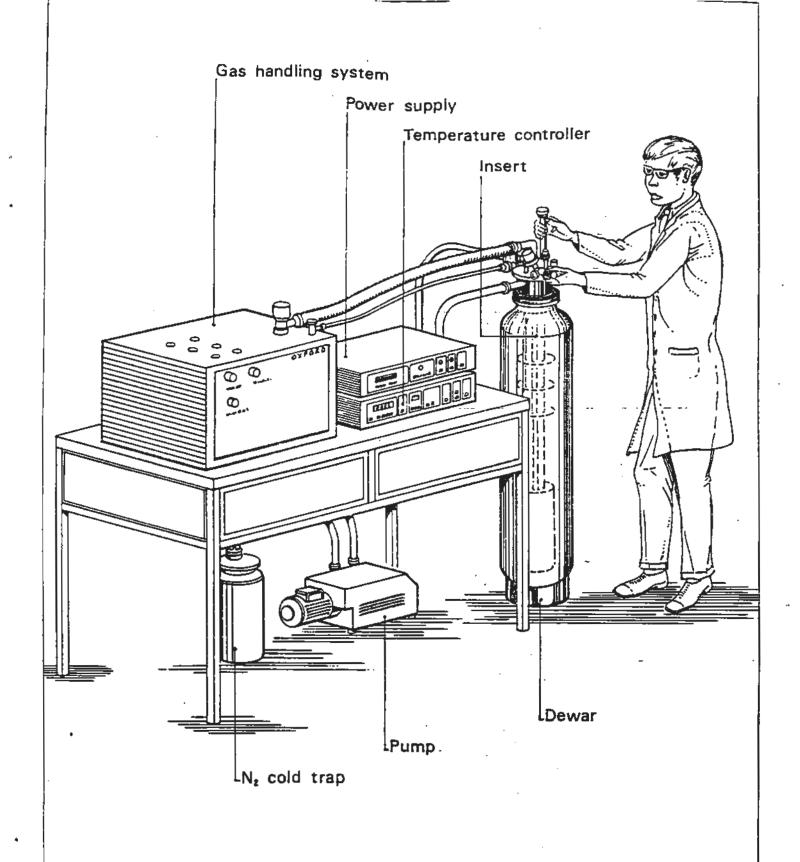
At home, Clarice sliced through the cellophane wrapping with a butter knife and opened the cardboard box. She carried her new vibrator into her bedroom and closed the door.

From six until nine p.m., on the hour and half hour, Clarice's lover telephoned leaving messages whose tone increased with urgency from a neutral "Hello sweetie. Give me a call when you get in," to a desperate, "Where the fuck are you? You said you'd be home, goddannit!"

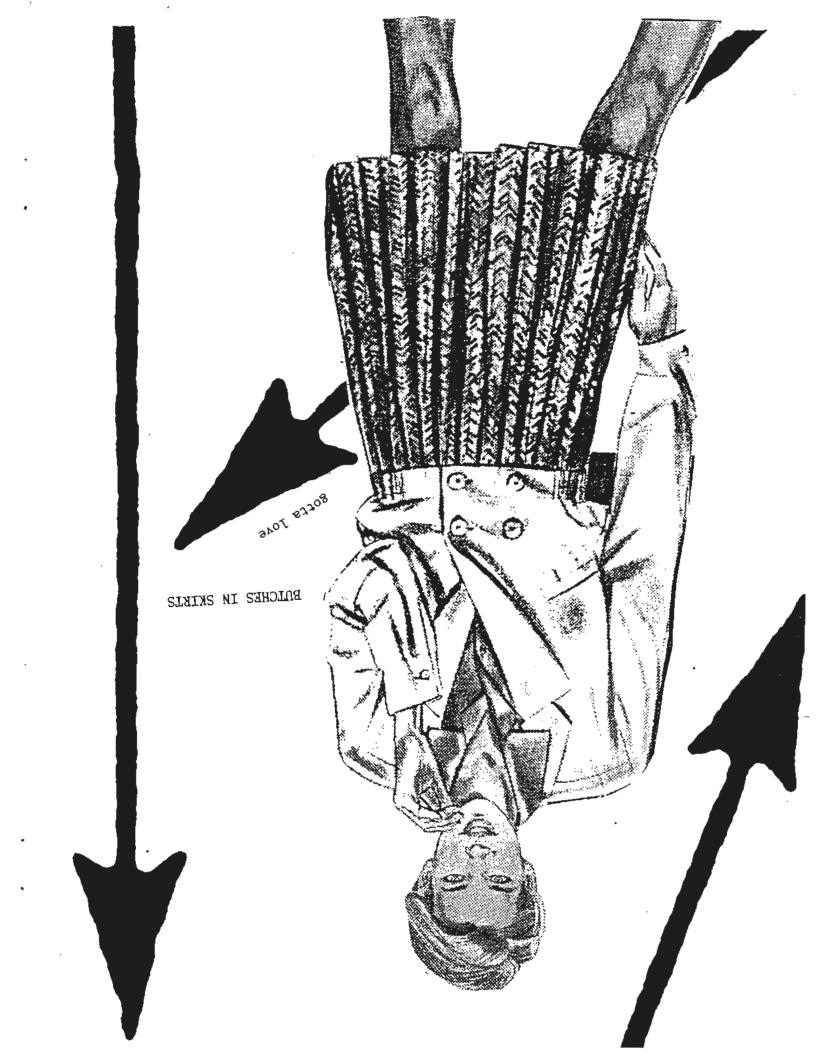
Clarice was unaware. On striped percale sheets she came







SYSTEM LAYOUT = Superconducting magnet



(EXCLUDING WINCH)



195

COMING OUT TO FAMILY AS A BIXEXUAL WOMAN BY LAURA S. 4 702 Chesic.

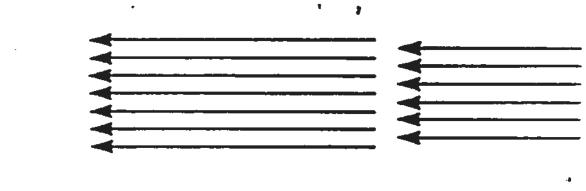
(The following contribution comes with special thanks to Anna, who has been such an important and supportive part of my coming out process.)

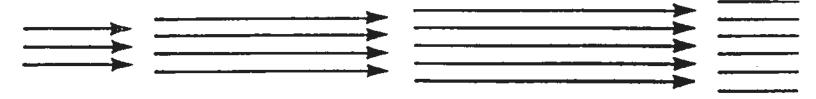
Coming out to the people closest to you is never an easy process. With it comes all of the anxiety accumulated over years of a closeted or semi-closeted existence. Preparation can take hours, weeks, even years, while images of one's parents and siblings loom larger and more intimidating every second. Attempts to think logically and have faith in their love grow more difficult as the day approaches. Cognition seems futile in the face of such powerful fears. Suddenly, the task is at hand and the enormous rough boulder blocking us from each other is pushed aside. For a moment, it feels pretty naked.

For me, the responses have been positive. My news has just confirmed what many of them suspected all along. Mom's known for 7 years now, it turns out. However, what she didn't know was much about bisexuality. She just assumed I was a lesbian. In some ways, this would have been easier to come out as; especially since my partners for many years have been women. At least lesbian identity doesn't need quite as much explaining. Unfortunately, most of the coming out literature speaks only of gay male and lesbian experiences. Rarely is bisexuality even mentioned anywhere. I did learn a lot from some of this reading, however, and found it was quite relevant whether one comes out as gay, lesbian or bi. I also found participating in a bisexual women's support group immensely helpful during this process. Coming out as bisexual clearly is a need not yet addressed in Gay literature. My approach was to talk about Kinsey's continuum of sexuality and to identify myself on it (closer to the gay end of the spectrum). I also spoke about my identity in terms of my potential for attraction to either gender, yet more frequent and stronger connections with women. I discovered that the members - of my family who are more comfortable with sexuality in general were more open to conversing with me about this issue, and that those who are less relaxed about sexuality issues tended to avoid this kind of conversation.

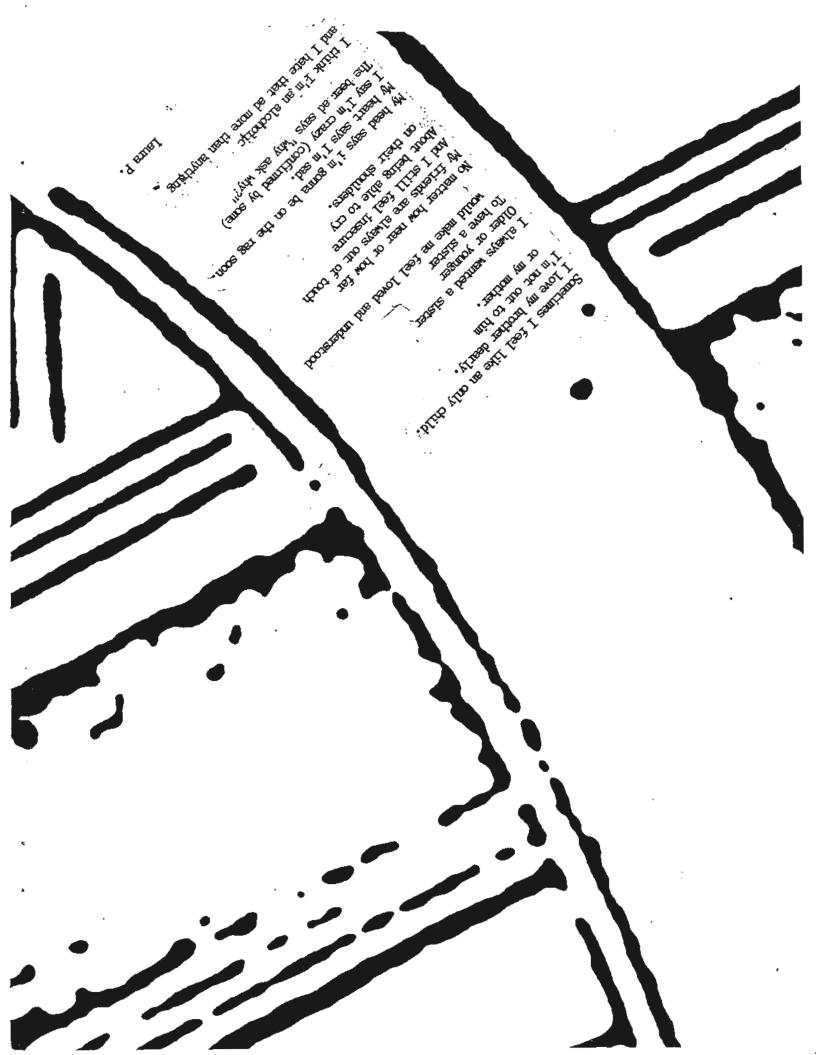
Overall, coming out has been a positive and freeing experience for both me and my family. I realize how lucky I am to have their support, especially when I think of friends who have been alienated from their families after taking the risk. Although I still feel a little vulnerable, I now feel like I can share my life with them

more fully; therefore growing closer in relationship. Although understanding my reasons, my family has expressed sadness about all the years I kept so much from them, and they look forward to talking more openly together. So do I.

























TALK TO ME, TOO.





